

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A computer readable medium having instructions for determining if  
2     a print job designated time sensitive has expired following a triggering event  
3     and purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has  
4     expired.

1           2.     The medium of Claim 1, wherein the print job designated time  
2     sensitive includes expiration data and wherein the instructions for purging the  
3     print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired include  
4     instructions for:  
5             detecting a triggering event;  
6             comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration  
7     specified by the expiration data; and  
8             purging the print job if the time elapsed exceeds the duration specified by  
9     the expiration data.  
10

1           3.     The medium of Claim 2, wherein the instructions for detecting a  
2     triggering event include instructions for detecting a malfunction.

1           4.     The medium of Claim 2, wherein the instructions for detecting a  
2     triggering event include instructions for detecting the placement of the print job  
3     in the memory.

1           5.     A computer readable medium having instructions for:  
2             determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time  
3     sensitive following a triggering event; and

4           if the print job has been designated time sensitive, obtaining expiration  
5 data for the print job, and, if the print job has expired according to the expiration  
6 data, purging the print job from the memory.

1           6.     The medium of Claim 5 having further instructions for detecting a  
2 triggering event and comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event  
3 with a duration specified by the expiration data to determine if the print job has  
4 expired.

1           7.     The medium of Claim 5, wherein the memory is a printer memory  
2 and wherein:  
3           the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for  
4 obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in  
5 the printer memory; and  
6           the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job  
7 from the printer memory.

1           8.     The medium of Claim 5, wherein the memory is a queue and  
2 wherein:  
3           the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for  
4 obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in  
5 the queue; and  
6           the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job  
7 from the queue.

1           9.     A computer readable medium having instructions for:  
2 receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document;  
3 translating the instructions into a print job;  
4 presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating  
5 the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and

6           if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time  
7   sensitive and including expiration data with the print job.

1           10.   The medium of Claim 9, wherein the instructions for presenting  
2   include instructions for presenting a user interface having user accessible  
3   controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying  
4   expiration data relating to a first duration for holding the print job in printer  
5   memory and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue.

1           11.   A computer readable medium having instructions for:  
2           identifying a malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a memory  
3   from being printed;  
4           upon identifying the malfunction, determining if the print job has expired;  
5   and  
6           if expired, purging the print job from the memory.

1           12.   The medium of claim 11 having further instructions for determining  
2   if the print job has been designated as a time sensitive, and wherein the  
3   instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job only if it has  
4   been designated as a time sensitive print job.

1           13.   The medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a queue and  
2   wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job  
3   from the queue.

1           14.   The medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a printer memory  
2   and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print  
3   job from the printer memory.

1           15.   The medium of Claim 11 having further instructions for notifying a  
2   user if the print job has been purged.

1           16.    A method for purging a print job, comprising determining if a print  
2 job designated as time sensitive has expired following a triggering event and  
3 purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired.

1           17.    The method of Claim 16, wherein the print job designated time  
2 sensitive includes expiration data and wherein purging the print job from a  
3 memory upon determining the print job has expired comprises:  
4           detecting a triggering event;  
5           comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration  
6 specified by the expiration data; and  
7           purging the print job if the time elapsed exceeds the duration specified by  
8 the expiration data.

1           18.    The method of Claim 17, wherein detecting a triggering event  
2 comprises detecting a malfunction.

1           19.    The method of Claim 17, wherein detecting a triggering event  
2 comprises detecting the placement of the print job in the memory.

1           20.    A method for purging a print job, comprising:  
2           determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time  
3 sensitive;  
4           if the print job has been designated time sensitive and a triggering event  
5 has occurred, obtaining expiration data associated with the print job,  
6 determining if the print job has expired, and, if the print job has expired  
7 according to the expiration data, purging the print job from the memory.

1           21.    The method of Claim 20, further comprising detecting a triggering  
2 event and comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a  
3 duration specified by the expiration data to determine if the print job has  
4 expired.

1           22.    The method of Claim 20, wherein the memory is a printer memory  
2 and wherein:  
3           obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a  
4 duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory; and  
5           purging comprises purging the print job from the printer memory.

1           23.    The method of Claim 20, wherein the memory is a queue and  
2 wherein:  
3           obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a  
4 duration that the print job is to be held in the queue; and  
5           purging comprise purging the print job from the queue.

1           24.    A method for designating a print job as time sensitive, comprising:  
2           receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document;  
3           translating the instructions into a print job;  
4           presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating  
5 the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and  
6           if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time  
7 sensitive and including expiration data with the print job.

1           25.    The method of Claim 24, wherein presenting comprises presenting  
2 a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as  
3 time sensitive and for specifying expiration data relating to a first duration for  
4 holding the print job in printer memory and a second duration for holding the  
5 print job in a queue.

1           26.    A method for purging a print job, comprising:  
2           identifying a printer malfunction that prevents a print job stored in a  
3 memory from being printed;  
4           upon identifying the malfunction, determining if the stored print job has  
5 expired; and  
6           if expired, purging the print job from the memory.

1           27.    The method of claim 26 further comprises:  
2           determining if the print job has been designated as time sensitive; and  
3           purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive  
4 print job.

1           28.    The method of claim 26 wherein the memory is a queue, and  
2 wherein purging the print job includes purging the print job from the queue.

1           29.    The method of claim 26, wherein the memory is a printer memory,  
2 and wherein purging the expired print job includes purging the expired print job  
3 from the printer memory.

1           30.    The method of claim 26, further comprising notifying a user that  
2 the print job has been purged.

1           31.    A method for purging a print job, comprising:  
2           designating the print job as a time sensitive print job;  
3           queuing the time sensitive print job;  
4           detecting a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job from  
5 being printed; and  
6           purging the time sensitive print job if the malfunction is not remedied  
7 within a set time.

1           32.    The method of Claim 31, further comprising:  
2           sending the queued time sensitive print job to a printer memory;  
3           detecting a malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the  
4 printer memory from being printed; and  
5           purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job if the  
6 malfunction is not remedied within a set time.

1           33.    The method of claim 31, further comprising notifying a user if the  
2 print job has been purged.

1           34.    The method of Claim 31, further comprising associating expiration  
2 data with the time sensitive print job, and after detecting the malfunction using  
3 the expiration data to determine if the time sensitive print job has expired, and  
4 wherein purging comprises purging the time sensitive print job only if it has  
5 expired.

1           35.    A system for printing, comprising:  
2           an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed;  
3 and  
4           a driver capable of translating printing instructions from an application  
5 into a print job and of allowing a user to designate the print job as time sensitive  
6 and to specify expiration data for the print job.

1           36.    A print server, comprising:  
2           a queue for temporarily holding a print job; and  
3           a queue manager capable of determining if the print job held in the queue  
4 is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, determining if the print job has expired,  
5 and purging the print job from the queue if the time sensitive print job has  
6 expired.

1           37.    The print server of Claim 36, wherein the print job is time sensitive  
2 and includes expiration data and wherein the queue manager is operable to  
3 determine if the print job has expired by:  
4            detecting a triggering event; and  
5            comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration  
6 specified by the expiration data.

1           38.    The server of Claim 37 wherein the triggering event is a  
2 malfunction.

1           39.    The server of Claim 37 wherein the triggering event is a placement  
2 of the print job in the queue.

1           40.    An image forming device, comprising:  
2            a print engine capable of printing information on print media;  
3            a memory manager capable of storing a print job in a memory, routing the  
4 print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the  
5 memory; and  
6            a recovery feature capable of identifying whether the print job held in the  
7 memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive and if a triggering event has  
8 occurred, determining if the print job has expired, and instructing the memory  
9 manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job  
10 has expired.

1           41.    The device of Claim 40, wherein the print job is time sensitive and  
2 includes expiration data and wherein the recovery feature is operable to  
3 determine if the print job has expired by:  
4            detecting a triggering event; and  
5            comparing a time elapsed following the triggering event with a duration  
6 specified by the expiration data.



1           42.    The device of Claim 41 wherein the triggering event is a  
2 malfunction.

1           43.    An image forming device, comprising:  
2           a memory for storing a print job;  
3           a print engine capable of printing information on print media;  
4           a memory manager capable of storing the print job in the memory, routing  
5 the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from  
6 the memory; and  
7           a recovery feature capable of identifying a printer malfunction, identifying  
8 whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive,  
9 instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the  
10 time sensitive print job expires before the malfunction is remedied.

1           44.    A printer driver, comprising:  
2           a means for receiving instructions from an application to print an  
3 electronic document;  
4           a means for translating the instructions into a print job;  
5           a means for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for  
6 designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and  
7           a means for designating the print job as time sensitive and including  
8 expiration data with the print job if so selected through the interface.

1           45.    A system for purging a print job, comprising:  
2           a means for storing the print job in memory;  
3           a means for identifying a printer malfunction that prevents the stored  
4 print job from being printed;  
5           a means for determining, upon identifying the malfunction, if the stored  
6 print job has expired; and  
7           a means for purging the print job, if expired, from memory.